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Preface

This volume of *Linear Algebra and its Applications* is dedicated to Peter Lancaster, as a tribute to a distinguished mathematician and a friend, on occasion of his 75th birthday that falls on November 14, 2004.

The volume features 21 original research papers dedicated to Peter Lancaster and a bibliography of his recent publications. It also contains a collection of personal notes, one of them written by Peter's daughters (Jill Lancaster, Jane Lancaster and Joy Warden) and nine by several of his friends.

We thank all those who contributed to the volume, making it a memorable occasion for all involved. Our special thanks are due to Peter's daughters, the only nonmathematicians among the contributors, and to Hans Schneider, the Editor-in-Chief of *Linear Algebra and its Applications*, who initiated and supported the volume from its inception.

Harm Bart
Econometric Institute, Erasmus University Rotterdam
P.O. Box 1738, 3000 DR Rotterdam, The Netherlands
E-mail: bart@few.eur.nl

Israel Koltracht
Department of Mathematics, University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06269, USA
E-mail: kolt@math.uconn.edu

Alexander Markus
Department of Mathematics, Ben-Gurion University,
P.O. Box 653, 84105 Beer-Sheva, Israel
E-mail: markus@cs.bgu.ac.il

Leiba Rodman
Department of Mathematics, College of William and Mary
Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795, USA
E-mail: lxrodm@math.wm.edu

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Peter Lancaster's publications since 1994[1]

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Peter Lancaster's collaborators

A.L. Andrew
L. Barkwell
S. Barnett
A. Bruckstein
E. Bohl
K.E. Chu
H. Dai
L. Elsner
H.K. Farahat
F.O. Farid
A. Farkas
P. Freitas
I. Gohberg
C.H. Guo
R.O. Hryniv
A. Jameson
M.A. Kaashoek
T. Kailath
W. Kliem
I. Koltracht
E. Kreindler
I. Krupnik
L. Lerer
A.S. Markus
J. Maroulas
V.I. Matsaev
M.V. Pattabhiraman
C. Pommer
P. Psarrakos
A.C.M. Ran
A.A. Renshaw
L. Rodman
P. Rózsa
J.G. Rokne
K. Salkauskas
E. Schmidt
A. Shkalikov
D. Smith
J. Terray
M. Tismenetsky
D.S. Watkins
P.N. Webber
H.K. Wimmer
Q. Ye
F. Zhou
P. Zizler

Peter Lancaster's doctoral students

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J.G. Rokne, Practical and theoretical studies in numerical error analysis, 1969.
D.S. Watkins, Blending functions and finite elements, 1974.
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